

REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting
Wichita Workforce Center
June 11, 2020 ~ 11:30 a.m.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Mayor Tom Brown, Chair
REAP Chair, Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes**
Approval of Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting from May 14, 2020.

ACTION TAKEN: Vice Mayor Cindy Claycomb (Wichita) moved to APPROVE the minutes from May 14, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. Seconded by Mayor Rex Satterthwaite (Bentley). Motion carried 13-0.

3. **Cooperative Purchasing: Laura Rainwater**

Staff presented a report on the advantages and disadvantages of incorporating REAP as a non-profit organization. Report attached to Minutes. Feedback from Executive Committee members include:

- Could build a broader membership base
- Would lower the assessments to counties if cities would join
- What is the difference between lobbying vs. advocacy
- We are disseminating information more than we are lobbying
- We have the League of Kansas Municipalities and Kansas Association of Counties lobbying for issues that impact our cities and counties
- Advocating purchasing through one local dealership – goes against the practice of supporting local business
- Fleet purchasing through Ford Motor Company is available to all Ford dealerships
- Would be a revenue generator for REAP
- The costs (mainly accounting) would be offset by revenue stream

Action Taken: Mayor Rex Satterthwaite motioned to have staff get more information on lobbying allowances and limitations from the State of Kansas Ethics Commission, as well as have staff prepare a cost/benefit analysis. Seconded by Vice Mayor Cindy Claycomb. Motion Passed 13-0.

4. **Covid-19 Updates:**

Commissioner Chip Westfall (Harvey County) provided an update from the Kansas Association Of Counties:

- \$1.094 billion received at State level
- \$400 million will be distributed to all counties except for Sedgwick County and Johnson County at a rate of at least \$194 per person

- Fifty percent of each county's share will be for reimbursement of COVID-19 related expenses and the remaining 50 percent will be direct aid for eligible expenditures under the CARES Act
- To receive funds, counties will be required to pass a resolution affirming they will allocate the funding consistent with the CARES Act and to share and allocate funds to educational and municipal entities within their counties
- There will be two additional funding rounds later this year - Public and private entities will be eligible for funding in the later rounds, which will focus on strategic investments and revitalizing the State's economy
- Workforce development/training grants will be in second phase of funding
- Jurisdiction issues with school districts that cross over county lines
- Every county has a unique footprint of what is a priority within their county
- SPARK (Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas) Committee will have oversight

Commissioner Pete Meitzner (Sedgwick County) provided an update on the \$99 million in CARES Act money Sedgwick County received:

- Witt-O'Brian is helping to manage grant funding for Sedgwick County
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): In order to better understand the needs of Sedgwick County community, and how it has been impacted by the COVID-19 public health crisis, the County is issuing this NOFO to solicit information on Fund eligible needs from government entities, hospital and healthcare providers, non-profit organizations providing essential services and educational institutions. Sedgwick County is soliciting information to assist in the development of an equitable and transparent method of allotting funds to eligible parties
- Five proposed programs
 - Sedgwick County cities
 - Public health providers
 - School districts
 - Social service providers
 - Other entities and organizations that provide services that are vital or provide a broad regional or community benefit to residents of Sedgwick County
- After the distribution level is determined based on needs of the five programs, applications will then be accepted and reviewed by seven-person committee
- Revenue replacement is not a qualifying expense
- Necessary expenditures incurred from March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020, due to the public health emergency with respect to Covid-19
- Sen. Moran and Rep. Estes are working on another round of funding that would include revenue replacement and liability protection from being sued due to spread

Mayor Brown shared that two clusters in McPherson have been contained. A local business has decontaminated both locations.

Keith Lawing, President & CEO of the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas presented the latest unemployment data:

- Approximately 50,000 for south-central Kansas
- Another 900 furloughed at Spirit
- There has been a decline in initial unemployment filings over the last few weeks
- People are being called back to work
- Unemployment payouts are going down
- Approximately 22,000 claims in Sedgwick County – highest in the state (Johnson County only had 13,000)
- Workforce Center is open to public by appointment

5. REAP Appointment to the Wichita Airport Advisory Board

Action Taken: Council Member Tom Jones (Park City) motioned to appoint Newton City Manager, Kelly McElroy, to the Wichita Airport Advisory Board. Seconded by Commissioner Commissioner Westfall. MOTION PASSED 13-0.

6. REAP appointment to the Transit Advisory Board

Action Taken: Vice Mayor Cindy Claycomb motioned to appoint Andover Council Member, Troy Tabor, to the Transit Advisory Board. Seconded by Mayor Donna Clasen (Maize). MOTION PASSED 13-0.

7. Other Business

- A. Regional Convenings: Tentatively will resume in September with WSU President, Dr. Jay Golden. Meeting will be in-person on the WSU campus. The meeting will also be available via Zoom
- B. Executive Committee Meetings: Beginning in July, the Executive Committee will meet in-person at the Wichita Workforce Center. Lunch will be provided. The meeting will also be available via Zoom
- C. Community Updates:
 - Mayor Rex Satterthwaite: Bentley has a new playground
 - Mayor Jade Piros de Carvalho: City of Hutchinson has a new city manager. Jeff Cantrell has been appointed and assumed his duties. He was previously the city manager of Chanute
 - Commissioner Chip Westfall: City of Newton has appointed Kelly McElroy as their new city manager. She was previously the assistant city manager and interim city manager after Bob Myers retired
 - Mayor Brown: Sincerest appreciation to Commissioner Westfall and Commissioner Meitzner for your leadership during the Covid crisis

D. July 11 meeting is moved to 11:30 on Thursday, July 18, at the Wichita Workforce Center

8. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Mayor Tom Brown, Chair	Chairman Pete Meitzner, Sedgwick County
Council Member Cindy Claycomb, Vice Chair	Jeff Cantrell, Hutchinson
Council Member Tom Jones, Treasurer	Karyn Page, Kansas Global
Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope	Bruce Pinkall, Pratt
Mayor Rex Satterthwaite, Bentley	Kim DeClue, Pratt Chamber
Mayor Donna Clasen, Maize	John Waltner, Harvey County
Mayor Jade Piros de Carvalho, Hutchinson	Valerie Wise, Eisenhower Airport
Mayor Gary Schmidt, Pratt	Jeff Longwell, Rusty Eck
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County	Kevin Cocchetella
Kelly McElroy, Newton	Tonya Witherspoon, WSU
Kim McCormick, Garden Plain	Marla Canfield, Dept. of Commerce
Ty Lasher, Bel Aire	Keith Lawing, Workforce Alliance & REAP
Lucas Neece, Lindsborg	Laura Rainwater, REAP